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Reply to:

August 20, 2002

Vernal Office

STAN PERKES JAMES F. KOHLER BLM UTAH STATE OFFICE PO BOX 45155 SALT LAKE CITY UTAH 84145-0155

Attorneys, Mediators, and Counselors

RE: FEDERAL GILSONITE LEASE U-0115850

Dear Mr. Perkes & Kohler:

In response to your letter dated July 15, 2002, to Ziegler Chemical & Mineral Corporation we propose an interim plan to deal with closing the vein and the shafts (C-1, C-2, and C-3) that have been mined on the lease until permanent closure can take place. Ziegler does not anticipate permanent closure in the near future. For the time being, Ziegler proposes the following interim plan that includes the necessary safety precautions for a safe mining site:

- Post signs of mining activity
- Put up barbed wire fence around old workings
- Caps on shafts will be maintained from crumbling
- Holes will be covered with chain link fencing when not in
- Holes around caps dug by animals will be filled in with cement

Ziegler has an approved mine plan that sets forth what Ziegler plans to do as soon as the mining operations are complete and permanent closure is to take place. Attached is section 6.1 Abandonment and Reclamation for your reference.

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Thank you for your time and please let us know if there are any other issues that we may need to address.

Very truly yours,

McKEACHNIE, ALLRED, McCLELLAN & TROTTER, P.C.

Haye Mckeachnie

By: Gayle F. McKeachnie

cc Ziegler Chemical & Mineral Corp, Gordon Ziegler, Stan Wagner Tony Gallegos, Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining

Enclosure

6.0 SURFACE RECLAMATION

6.1 ABANDONMENT AND RECLAMATION

Upon completion of mine operations, all machinery, equipment, and debris would be removed from the site. The site, including access roads, would be graded to conform as closely as possible to premining conditions, scarified, and seeded with a mixture approved by the Authorized Officer. This reclamation process is to include the existing access road that was used during the mining of the old C-1, C-2, and C-3 mines. Reclamation within the fenced area of the old workings, and the old access road serving the old mined out area will begin upon approval by the Authorized Officer. For the safety of the men working in the mines any blasting that is necessary for the closure of any open veins will be done after all mining activity on this lease has ceased.

When the mine shafts and escapeways would be ready for closure, final designs would be submitted to the Authorized Officer prior to seal construction. The collar and other structures would be removed. If the seal is to be in and exposed rock outcrop, the top of the seal would be constructed to conform with the contour of the outcrop and would be no higher than the adjacent rock. bottom of the seal would be placed on bedrock. If the seal is to be in a location where soil would cover the seal, the top of the seal would be placed on bedrock and covered with a minimum of 2 feet of topsoil. Where the surface pillar covering the vein has been removed (old south vein mines) the void left from mining would be blasted shut. Blast holes are anticipated to be in a 20 x 20 ft pattern. A blasting plan would be submitted to the Authorized Officer at least 120 days prior to any blasting. After blasting, the area would be contoured and seeded with a mixture approved by the Authorized Officer. The estimated disturbance area due to blasting would be 50 feet wide and 150 feet long, or 0.17 acres.